



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

RIPLEY, W. Z. *Trusts, pools, and corporations*. Revised edition. (Boston: Ginn. 1916. Pp. xxxiii, 872. \$2.75.)

Labor and Labor Organizations

The Boycott in American Trade Unions. By LEO WOLMAN. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science, Series XXXIV, No. 1. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1916. Pp. vii, 148. \$1.25.)

The quarter-million-dollar fine in the Danbury Hatters' case and the recent Clayton amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law have combined to make Dr. Wolman's monograph of particular interest and value. In this, the second book thus far published in English on the boycott, Dr. Wolman tells for the first time the story of this labor device as gleaned from the monthlies, convention proceedings, and other literature of various national and international unions. His study is an admirable complement to former researches. The special contribution of the book is the analysis of the boycott on materials.

After describing the nature of the boycott and sketching the history of its employment in this country, Dr. Wolman discusses at length boycotts on materials and boycotts on commodities. The former consists of "an appeal to organized labor to reject certain commodities on which or with which they are asked to labor." These are waged, according to the author, either through a desire to secure work for unionists or to help less fortunate workers. Boycotts on prison-made goods, formerly of frequent occurrence, were largely motivated by the first consideration. The boycotts of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners on non-union trim, have had, on the other hand, as their primary objects the bettering of the conditions of the men, women and children of the mills. That such boycotts have frequently been attended with distinct success is indicated by the result of those waged in New York City, where 189 of the 230 woodworking mills were reported as organized twelve years after the commencement of the boycotting campaign.

Certain tendencies, the author declares, are leading to the disuse of boycotts on materials. Among them are legal interference and popular opposition to sympathetic strikes. The more inclusive methods of trade union organization and the development of trade federations are, on the other hand, tending to make these boycotts more frequent and effective. Boycotts on commodities are em-

ployed even more generally than those on materials, as they involve less sacrifice, appeal to a wider group, and may be resorted to when the weakness of organized labor precludes the use of the other form. According to the author, city labor councils are perhaps the most effective of the boycotting agencies.

Dr. Wolman clearly describes the various methods of enforcing boycotts; considers the almost insuperable obstacles in the way of boycotting monopolized goods; describes the trade union regulations that attempt to prevent indiscriminate use of this weapon; discusses the relative boycotting propensities of trade and industrial unions; emphasizes the fact that "the effectiveness of the boycott consists in its potential rather than its actual accomplishments," and in a most important passage, justifies the boycott as indispensable to the organization of many trades. He declares:

The boycott arises, first, where organization by any other means is either impossible or unlikely because of the apathy of workmen or the hostility of employers, and, second, to supplement strikes which threaten to be unsuccessful. Without it organization in many trades would have been either impossible or long delayed. . . . Nor is it correct to assume that the need for the boycott as an organizing agency has now passed. Organization has doubtless within the last ten years received an additional impetus, but there still remain whole sections of industries and individual establishments which it will be impossible to organize without the employment by the laborers of their combined purchasing power. . . . Regarded, then, as a resource of trade unionism, the boycott performs an important service in fostering the growth of organizations that have for several generations developed with the sanction and support of societies.

It is to be hoped that this monograph may be read by all of those jurists who have been prone to substitute invective against this "malicious," "illegal," "unjustifiable" weapon for impartial, clear-headed analysis. The book, of course, is also heartily to be recommended to all students of the labor problem.

A few minor criticisms, however, suggest themselves. Although it is undoubtedly true that the boycott is likely to arise under the conditions specified by Dr. Wolman, its emergence, at least in the case of the boycott on commodities, depends to a very considerable extent on the character of the article handled. In the case of commodities such as cigars, bread, beer, hats, that are purchased extensively and regularly by organized labor and can be effectively boycotted with slight expenditure of effort, this weapon is likely to be resorted to even though the problem of

organizing the workers is not more than usually difficult. Nor should it be assumed that, once industry is fairly well organized, the boycott has no further legitimate function to perform. In one or two instances Dr. Wolman's definitions might also be called into question. In the early part of the book, for instance, he defines a secondary boycott as, "a combination to withdraw patronage from a person in order to force that person in turn to withdraw his patronage" from the boycotted firm. However, a secondary boycott may arise when mere persuasion is used to induce a third party to cease relations with the boycotted firm, unaccompanied by threats of withdrawal or actual withdrawal of patronage.

A more complete utilization of the reports on the boycotts of the New York, Wisconsin, and Illinois bureaus of labor of the eighties and nineties and of the numerous significant legal proceedings, and a more detailed examination of the ability of the boycott to function when waged against the great modern corporation would have made the monograph of even greater value as a guide book on this big problem of the labor world.

HARRY W. LAIDLER.

The Helper and the American Trade Unions. By JOHN H. ASHWORTH. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science, Series XXXIII, No. 3. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1915. Pp. iv, 134. \$1.00.)

This intensive study of the helper and the trade union is based, largely, upon trade union documents, personal correspondence, and experience. In his introduction the author defines the term "helper," and differentiates him from the apprentice and from other subordinate workers. Characteristics of helpers suggested by previous writers are not sufficiently explicit to identify him. (a) Helpers are older than apprentices, (b) they are restricted to unskilled work, (c) they do not use the tools of the journeyman, (d) they are not under the jurisdiction of the union. The unflinching marks of a real helper are two: (1) "He is employed to promote the work of another"; (2) "he is supervised in his work to some extent by the mechanic whom he assists." The apprentice, on the contrary, is engaged primarily to learn a trade. The "essential difference between the two classes . . . lies in the purpose of employment." The helper may be separated from other subordinate workers, because the latter are not under "subjection . . . to the authority of a fellow workman."